**COLLEGE INTERVIEW TIPS**

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| Here is my standard advice: if you can do it, pick some colleges near you that you are not strongly interested in and have interviews "just for fun", in other words schedule interviews and see how it goes. If this is not possible make sure you practice with another adult. As for being nervous, it’s just a matter of getting used to it; the first day of HS you were probably nervous walking around campus, today I bet you do not give it a second thought. Interviewing is no different.  Rehearsal is a good technique. Get a book on job interviewing and practice answering those questions. Colleges are going to ask much of the same thing -- "tell me about yourself", "what do you consider your strengths", "tell me about a problem you had with a friend and how you solved it", etc. These are all pretty standard; just substitute "enroll here" for "work here" and the work-specific ones translate too. Practice first in front of a mirror, then have a parent or friend play the role of interviewer.  One of the most important times, is when they turn to you and ask if you have any questions. I **guarantee** you'll be asked this, and it’s not just to fill time. It’s your turn to show you've done your homework and can ask cogent questions that show you know about the particulars of the school and have read the material available in the view book, on the web, etc. and have considered yourself as a student there and what questions would arise.  Interviews on campus **are** very important, those with alums much less so (although you'll read various opinions about this). On-campus you have a trained interviewer who talks with hundreds of kids every year. In the community you have people who are quite proud of their college but less thoroughly trained and who may only see a dozen or so kids each year (if even that). Their recs are not as important UNLESS you raise a red flag of some sort – for example if you tell them you're applying just to see if you get in, or because your parents made you, or if you make a very negative impression. |
| * Take your resume with you, and attach a professional looking picture * Dress appropriately/ No jeans or sweat pants * Have a firm handshake * Make good eye contact * Eating a meal is discouraged with the interviewer |